



## NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

### Kits to Test Well Water Quality Available Now

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**HELENA** - Have you ever wondered what is in your well water? Montana State University Extension Water Quality in cooperation with many local extension and health department offices across the state is offering a water quality testing program for well owners.

This public education program, known as “Well Educated,” guides private well owners through the process of testing their well water and helps them to interpret their water quality results.

If you are a homeowner with a private well system, it is your responsibility to test the quality and safety of your private well water supply. Unlike public water supplies, which are routinely tested for drinking water quality, most private well water supplies are infrequently tested. Past testing in most locations in Montana indicates that private well water supplies are generally of good quality. However, rapid population growth in some counties has resulted in many new private well installations, which could impact water quality in existing wells.

Well-Educated offers different water quality testing packages to best suit each individual’s needs. The most basic package provides testing for nitrate and the presence or absence of coliform bacteria. This testing is recommended to be done every year by well owners.

Testing costs range from \$20-\$75 depending on the package. For more information or to pick up a well test kit and instructions, please visit or contact the Lewis and Clark County Water Quality Protection District at 457-8584.